Lincoln Cent Quarterly

LINCOLN SENSE • Vol. XXV No. 1 • January, 2007

# Die State Matters

## Part two

*by Charles D. Daughtrey*

In our last issue we discussed what die state is and how to determine the die state of a coin by examining the die flow lines and loss of detail exhibited on the coin. In this issue I will discuss the relative rarity of each die state and how it will likely affect the value of major die varieties as the general numismatic community progresses in its knowledge of this topic.

When we look for a die variety, whether it be a nice doubled die or a common repunched mintmark, we are constantly looking for the best specimen we can find for our collections. But what is the best specimen? Is it the elusive grade--the cherished MS70 coin? Or is it perhaps the best example of a die variety possible as seen under a microscope? The answer is simple. When collecting under the scope, we want what we see under the scope to be as crisp and clear as possible.

Grade and die state are not reflective of one another. We could just as easily have a coin struck with a worn out die that has no visible flaws and bright luster as a coin with fingerprints and bag marks that shows extremely crisp details. The former coin could be MS67, or even MS68, but will look extremely mushy under a microscope. The latter might only grade MS63, but will show every separation line in the doubling as crisp, clear folds in the metal on the coin.

So I ask again, which coin is better? For the set registry collector the grade is likely the most important factor, regardless of what the doubling looks like under the scope. For the die variety collector who wants to see the anomaly on the coin best, the lower grade coin with sharper detail is obviously best.

A comprehensive study of die state was published in 1989 by Delma K. Romines, a long-time numismatist considered to be one of the initial die variety experts. Copies of his study are in very short number, and this author happens to have one.

Full die life is described as the maximum number of strikes for a given die on a given planchet type. For a zinc cent die Mr. Romines suggests this is 600,000 strikes. This author believes that with lowered relief and a recently refined planchet making process this number could be increased by as much as 25% to about three quarters of a million strikes (750,000). For the pre-1983 brass and bronze cents, this number is

(see **Die State,** continued on page 2)

SLCC, 13515 Magnolia Blvd.,
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

MAIL BID SALE #____ CLOSING DATE _____

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*PLEASE EXECUTE THESE BIDS*

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**Please return the used stamps. Do not bend. Use scissors to cut around the paper backing. Do not try to remove the stamps from the paper backing. Thank you.**

State Zip

# Lincoln Cent Quarterly

LINCOLN SENSE • Vol. XXV No. 1 • January, 200

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SLCC is a collector-based not for profit society founded in 1982 for the benefit of collectors and dealers in Lincoln Cents. Annual membership is $15. For $25 membership can be extended for two years. Mailing address is 13515 Magnolia Boulevard, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423 and the email address is SolTaylor2@aol.com.

# President's Message

Welcome to 2007. For SLCC it makes our TWENTY FIFTH YEAR! Our actual anniversary is April (a copy of our flyer from 25 years ago appears in this issue). In our first year, we signed up 100 charter members, many of whom are still with us as life members. A few have passed away, moved away, or left collecting. A few reflections of the past are included in our special anniversary issue--now being assembled. If you have a special item for the April anniversary issue, mail or email it to SLCC soon. We are planning a jumbo issue for April, 2007 and will include lots of material from the past.

As tot he present, the headline story always seems to focus on record prices--for many coins, not just Lincoln cents. A very common date Lincoln cent, apparently the first graded as MS70 by a major grading service, sold for $13,500 last fall. Many similar pieces have been graded MS70 by the "lesser" grading services and sell for a few dollars each. SLCC has had several such coins consigned a few years ago, and most sold for under $20. It has always been the contention of columnists and most numismatists that grade is one factor in pricing, while rarity is the main factor. A 2003 cent in MS70 is not nearly worth what an MS64 $20 gold piece is worth--at a much lower price. But to a collector who wants to claim that he has the ONLY ONE graded MS70 (for now), the price apparaently was worth it. That reminds me of a story a few years after slabbing became the way to go. One dealer had the only slabbed 1909 VDB graded MS67RD and was asking about $5,000 (or thereabouts) for it. The buyer wanted to own it as the highest graded 1909 VDB cent. Today there are hundreds of MS67RD 1909 VDB cents and they are still worth much, much less than $1000. In 1996 at the ANA show in Baltimore, one dealer had a few 1943 cents graded by a major service as MS67 and was asking $350 each. Today the same graded coins by ANACS, PCGS, or NGC would sell for under $100. For coinswhere it is known that high grades (MS65 and up) are really uncommon--such as Buffalo nickels 1913-1931, Liberty standing quarters, all Barber coinage, all 19th century coinage, Walking Liberty halves 1916-1939, and others, the higher grade merits the higher prices. For common coins, the superb grades may become deflated with the addition of dozens, or even hundreds waiting to be certified. I doubt if dozens or hundreds of 1913S Buffalo nickels or 1933S Walking Liberty halves will EVER show up for grading at the levels of MS66 and higher.

Meanwhile, a nice extra fine or AU50-58 Lincoln cent set from 1909-1934 and BU from 1935 to date is a very worthwhile pursuit at a pretty reasonable cost. Those few collectors with the money and zest to join the ranks of the Set Registry can push the envelope very high in the pursuit of the elusive MS70s.

Happy Collecting.

Dr. Sol Taylor
President, SLCC

(**Die State**, continued from front cover)

reported to be closer to 700,000. With this in mind, the following can be calculated, considering a full die life.

The 1995 DDO cent is believed to be common and shows up in the marketplace in all known die states. It is relatively safe to assume that this die saw a full die life. Given what we can see from die wear on known examples and considering Mr Romines' study, there were probably about 750,000 examples of this major doubled die minted. It is also given that this die was disovered very early in production by collectors, so the survivability of this die variety in the marketplace today is very high. I estimate that at least 80% of all 1995 DDO cents minted still exist today. This assumption brings us to about 600,000 examples surviving. Using this number and Mr. Romines' study, the following is assumed:

Very Early Die State, according to the study, comprises of 0.21% of a die's life. In the case of the 1995 DDO cent, this would be 1,575 minted with only 1,260 surviving today. The remainder of the die states calculate as follows:

Early Die State (EDS): 2.63%, with 19,725 minted and 15,780 surviving.

Middle Die State (MDS): 9.13%, with 68,500 minted and 54,780 surviving.

Late Die State (LDS): 35%, with 262,500 minted and 210,000 surviving.

Very Late Die State (VLDS): 53.03%, with 397,735 minted and 318,180 surviving.

With these numbers it is easy to see how education in die state could make a big difference in the value of a single die variety if its die state were a factor. Currently it is not seen as a factor with a vast majority of the numismatic market, but with education this could change, and dramatically.

Given the current market value of a 1995 DDO cent in MS67 at $100 without regard to die state, if we use the numbers generated by the figures above and assume the $100 value be attached to the LDS specimens, the VEDS specimens are 166.66 times less common. Using straight multiplication of value, this would make a true VEDS example of this DDO in MS67 grade to be worth over $15,000. EDS examples would be worth about $1,300 (they are 13.3 times less common than LDS examples) and MDS examples worth around $375 (they are 3.8 times less common than LDS examples). On the other hand the VLDS examples, of which the most were minted should bring $65 being 0.65 times less common (actually more common since the number is below zero) than LDS examples.

Yes, the math is flawed, and no I do not believe prices of $15,000 will be realized any time soon for 1995 DDO cents in MS67 grade. These calculations are very purean based on much assumption, but I believe they illustrate something of which collectors should make note. When searching for die varieties at shows or in coin shops, if given the opportunity to buy a nicely graded late die state die variety or an early die state lower grade example of same, choose wisely. I have my selection made.

# Mail Bid Sale #131 results

Results from our mail bid sale that ended October 31, 2006.

| lot | sold |
|---|---|
| 1 | $130.00 |
| 2 | $180.00 |
| 3 | $21.00 |
| 4 | $15.00 |
| 5 | $50.50 |
| 6 | $60.00 |
| 7 | $75.00 |
| 8 | $11.00 |
| 9 | $19.00 |
| 10 | $15.00 |
| 11 | $12.25 |
| 12 | $19.00 |
| 13 | NB |
| 14 | NB |
| 15 | $23.00 |
| 16 | NB |
| 17 | NB |
| 18 | $5.00 |
| 19 | $6.00 |
| 20 | NB |
| 21 | $15.00 |
| 22 | $17.00 |
| 23 | $16.00 |
| 24 | $16.00 |
| 25 | $16.00 |
| 26 | $16.00 |
| 27 | $115.00 |
| 28 | $575.00 |
| 29 | $199.00 |
| 30 | $495.00 |
| 31 | $250.00 |
| 32 | $350.00 |
| 33 | $40.00 |
| 34 | $41.00 |
| 35 | $21.00 |
| 36 | NB |
| 37 | $8.00 |
| 38 | NB |
| 39 | NB |
| 40 | NB |
| 41 | NB |
| 42 | $18.00 |
| 43 | $18.00 |
| 44 | $10.00 |
| 45 | $9.00 |
| 46 | $27.00 |
| 47 | $25.50 |

nb = no bid  t = tie bid

# Membership Report

One new member has been added since our last issue:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Charles Miller | Oregon | R1642 |

Welcome and enjoy.

All members are requested to provide their email addresses to SLCC It is important that we can communicate in a timely manner if needed The SLCC email address is soltaylor2@aol.com.

We have a number of members who have moved and left us no forwarding address:

Terrance A. Martell, R1487
Stephanie Fullerton, R1595
Michael Johnson, R1633
Mary O. MacKinnon, R1436
Larry Wood, LM49
Kevin S. O'Conner, LM46
Kathy Sellers-Tapia, R1607

If you know any of these members, please have them contact SLCC t update their mailing addresses. If your LCQ has a pink slip enclosed i indicates your subscription has expired (or will expire shortly).

# Got Something to Say?

## Well, we would like to hear from you.

The SLCC is seeking members who would like to write and submit articles f publication consideration in future issues of the SLCC Quarterly. We take pride being a member group of a small specialty, namely the Lincoln cent, and know y likely have stories, comments, discoveries, ideas, or knowledge that would benefit o other members.

Please do not hesitate to send article submissions via email to the newslett editor, Charles Daughtrey at cd@coppercoins.com or to Sol Taylor, President, soltaylor2@aol.com. Articles can also be submitted via mail to the address fou beneath the table of contents inside the front cover.

We look forward to hearing from you!

# Recent Auction Results

SLCC reports the results of the regular Mike Aron Rare Coin auctions held four times a year since they reflect more closely the types of coins found in the SLCC mail bid sales. In addition, MARC specializes almost entirely in coins under $1000 (except for the gold coins). From the November 19, 2006 sale we note some of the offerings. The comments in parentheses are SLCC comments.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1862 CN Indian cent PCGS MS63 | $100 |
| 1872 Indian cent, Some Porosity (badly pitted) | $40 |
| 1889 PCGS MS63BN | $42 |
| 1908S XF40 (looks VF) | $85 |
| 1909 VDB PCGS MS64RD (bright mint red) | $32 |
| 1909S XF45 (might slab high VF or low XF) | $110 |
| 1911D MS65RB (mixed color and soft details) | $125 |
| 1913 PCGS MS64RD | $85 |
| 1913 MS64RD (looks as nice as the previous lot, but not slabbed) | $42 |
| 1914D VG8 (some nicks and other marks, maybe G4) | $140 |
| 1917D NGC MS63RB (spots and late die state) | $95 |
| 1920 PCGS MS64RD Type 1 holder | $56 |
| 1922 plain G4 | $125 |
| 1924D XF40 | $52 |
| 1927D PCGS MS63RB (about 50/50 red & brown, avg. die state) | $80 |
| 1930 NGC MS67RD (not much better than a nice MS65RD) | $280 |
| 1931S MS64RD | $160 |
| 1955/55 DDO AU53 (no mint luster and lots of wear marks) | $1100 |

Add 10% to all final bids for buyers' fee.

# Mail Bid Sale #132 --- closing date - January 30, 2007

## OUR LARGEST MAIL BID SALE IN YEARS!

Submit your bids early--in the case of a tie, the earlier bid wins. You may submit bids by e-mail SolTaylor@aol.com or mail in the enclosed bid sheet. Include a daytime phone number or e-mail addres

| LOT | Description |
|---|---|
| | **Chicago Consignment** |
| 1 | 1909VDB MS63RD, few specks |
| 2 | 1929 Pair MS63RB plus 1929 MS64RD (3 pcs this lot) |
| 3 | 1929S MS64BN, lustrous cocoa sheen |
| 4 | 1931 MS64RD |
| 5 | 1933 MS65RD |
| 6 | 2 proofs: 1964 PR67RD and 1970S PR67RD cameo |
| | **Georgia Consignment** |
| 7 | 1914S VG reserve $10 |
| 8 | 1922D VF weak D variety, res. $65 |
| 9 | **1931S XF45 - KEY - res. $65** |
| 10 | 1938S MS65RD, colorful rainbow toning. |
| 11 | 1940S MS65RD |
| 12 | 1997 MS65RD "double ear" variety |
| 13 | 1981S PR69UDC (Ultra Deep Cameo) |
| | **Long Beach Consignment** |
| 14 | 1954S 5X MS65RD |
| 15 | 1960 Small Date 5X MS65RD |
| 16 | 1966 SMS 5X MS67RD |
| 17 | 2006S PR69DCAM |
| | **Massachusetts Consignment of Certified Coins** |
| 18 | 1942S ICG MS66RD |
| 19 | 1953 ICG MS66RD |
| 20 | 1956 ICG MS67RD |
| 21 | 1958 ICG MS66RD |
| | **San Bernadino Consignment** |
| 22 | 1909 VDB MS64RB, sharp + 1909 VDB MS64RB/BN |
| 23 | 1913 VF + 1915D VF |
| 24 | Trio 1916 XF, 1916D F, 1916S F |
| 25 | Five: 1917D XF, 1917S VF, 1918 XF, 1918D VF, 1918S VF |

*(lots continued on next page)*

| LOT | Description |
|---|---|
| | **San Bernadino Consignment (continued)** |
| 26 | Trio: 1919 XF, 1919S XF, 1926 XF chrome plated |
| 27 | **1926S VF+ semi-key** |
| 28 | Four: 1928 AU55, 1928S large S XF, 1929 VF, 1929D XF |
| 29 | Four: 1929S XF, 1930 looks BU cleaned, 1930D XF, 1930S AU50 |
| 30 | Four: 1931 XF, 1931D XF, 1932 XF, 1932D XF |
| 31 | Four: 1933 AU58, 1933D XF, 1934 XF, 1934D AU55 |
| 32 | Trio: 1935 XF, 1935D XF, 1935S XF |
| | **Los Angeles Consignment** |
| 33 | 1996S PCGS PR69DCAM |
| 34 | 2001S PCGS PR69DCAM |
| 35 | 2002S PCGS PR69DCAM |
| 36 | 2003S PCGS PR69DCAM |
| 37 | 2005S PCGS PR69DCAM |
| | **Anaheim Consignment** |
| 38 | 1933 four pieces, G, VG, F, VF |
| 39 | 1954S Ten MS65+RD |
| 40 | 1960P small date - five MS65+RD |
| 41 | 1966 SMS P/L 3 gems MS68-69RD |
| 42 | 2004S PR69DCAM x 3 |
| 43 | 2006S PR69DCAM x 8 |
| | **Albany Consignment** |
| 44 | Pair 1935 MS65RD |
| 45 | Pair 1936 MS65RD |
| 46 | Four 1937 MS65RD |
| 47 | Four 1938 MS65RD |
| 48 | Three 1938D + two 1938S all MS65RD |
| 49 | Four 1939 MS65RD |
| 50 | Two 1939S and 1 1939D MS65RD |
| 51 | Two 1940 and 3 1941 all MS65RD |
| 52 | 1942 and 1944D both MS65RD |
| 53 | Three 1954 MS65RD better than usual 1954P details |
| 54 | 1960D small RPM D/I MS65RPM |
| 55 | Roll 1910 average circs (50) |

*(lots continued on next page)*

| LOT | Description |
|---|---|
| | **Albany Consignment (continued)** |
| 56 | Roll 1917 average circs (50) |
| 57 | Roll 1918 average circs (50) |
| 58 | Roll 1919 average circs (50) |
| 59 | Roll 1925 average circs (50) |
| 60 | Roll 1926 average circs (50) |
| 61 | Roll 1928 average circs (50) |
| 62 | 1936D mostly F-VF few XFs roll of 50 |
| 63 | 1939S Most XF including 10 with mint luster up to MS64 |
| 64 | Full roll (50) 1954S MS65+RD |
| 65 | 17 pcs. 1960P small date MS65RD |
| 66 | 9 GEM P/L 1966 SMS 67 RD |
| 67 | 10 2006S PR68DCAM |
| 68 | Whitman 3 page bookshelf album. Partial set 1909-1940 includes: 1909 VDB, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912PD, 1913PD, 1914, 1915, 1916PD, 1917PDS, 1918PDS, 1919PDS, 1920PDS, 1921PS, 1922D, 1923PS, 1924PS, 1925PDS, 1926PDS, 1927PDS, 1928PDS, 1929PDS, 1930PDS, 1931PD, 1932PD, 1933, 1935PDS, 1940PDS -- 73 pcs total |
| | **Miami Consignment** |
| 69 | Trio of 1909VDB: fine, AU50, MS63RB |
| 70 | Trio: 1909: G, VG, F |
| 71 | Four: 1910 VG, 1911 G, VG, F, 1911D VG |
| 72 | Five: 1913 G+VG, 1913D VG (2), 1913D G+ |
| 73 | 1913S G4 |
| 74 | 1916 VG, 1916D G, 1917S 3 Pcs G-VG (5 coins this lot) |
| 75 | 1917S XF45 |
| 76 | 1918 (5 x G), 1918D (2 x G) (7 coins this lot) |
| 77 | 1919 (7 x G), 1919S VG, 1919D VG (9 coins this lot) |
| 78 | 1920D (8 x G), 1920S VG, 1920S F (10 coins this lot) |
| 79 | 1921 G, 1921S G, 1921S VG-F, 1922D G |
| 80 | 1923 G, 1924 (4 x G), 1924S G, 1924S VG (7 coins this lot) |
| 81 | 1925D F, 1925D VF, 1925S VF+, 1925S XF polished |
| 82 | 1926 6 pcs G-VG, 1926S 2 x G (8 coins this lot) |
| 83 | 1927 6 x G-VG, 1927D F, 1927D VF, 1927S 2 x G (10 coins this lot) |
| 84 | 1928 5 x G-VG, 1928D VF, 1928S F, 1928S VF (8 coins this lot) |

*(lots continued on next page)*

| LOT | Description |
|---|---|
| | **Miami Consignment (continued)** |
| 85 | 1928D all VG-F (7 coins this lot) |
| 86 | 1929D all G-F (16 coins this lot) |
| 87 | 1929S VF, 1930 MS64RD, 1930 XF cleaned, 1930S XF |
| 88 | 1931D 2 coins VF and XF |
| 89 | 1932D 2 coins both F+, 1933 VG, 1933D VG |
| 90 | 1934 G-F (6), 1935 G-VF (6), 1935D 2 MS64RB (14 coins this lot) |
| 91 | Four: 1935D matching MS64RD |
| 92 | 1936D AU, MS63RB, and 4 x MS64RD (6 coins this lot) |
| 93 | 1943S MS65 (4), 1943 MS65 (7) all bright mint fresh (11 coins this lot) |
| 94 | 1944 group of 10 BUs 64-65RD + 1 1944S MS65RB |
| 95 | 1944D/S variety 1 (the scarcer OMM), ANACS EF40 |
| 96 | 1945 MS65RD/RB (6), 1945D MS63RB, 1945S MS65RD (8 coins this lot) |
| 97 | 1946 BU 64-65RD and RB (17 coins this lot) |
| 98 | 1947 ten all BU MS64RD & RBs. |
| 99 | 1956D/S OMM#1 NGC MS66RD, RARE over mintmark, high grade |
| 100 | 1961 PR65RD, 2 matched pcs. |
| 101 | 1967 MS65RD 3 pcs. |
| 102 | 3 PR69 DCAMs: 1983S, 1994S, 2004S |
| 103 | Lot of MS65-66RD: 1968S, 1968D, 1970S, 1972S, 1973D, 1973S (8), and 1974D (10). Total 23 coins this lot. |
| | **New York Consignment** |
| 104 | 1921S (19) - 10 VG, 5 F, 4 VF |
| 105 | 1926S semi-key (15) - 10 G and 5 VG |
| 106 | 1929D (22): 10 XF40 and 12 XF45 |
| 107 | 1932 PCGS MS64RD, looks better than 64 |
| 108 | 1933D MS65RD |
| 109 | 1938S RPM2 triple mintmark, MS65RD |
| 110 | 1992S PCGS PR69DCAM |
| 111 | 1994S PCGS PR69DCAM |
| 112 | 1995S PCGS PR69DCAM |
| 113 | 1997S PCGS PR69DCAM |
| 114 | 1998S PCGS PR69DCAM |
| 115 | 2000S PCGS PR69DCAM |

*(lots continued on next page)*

| LOT | Description |
|---|---|
| | **New York Consignment (continued)** |
| 116 | 2001S PCGS PR69DCAM |
| 117 | 2002S PCGS PR69DCAM |
| 118 | 2003S PCGS PR69DCAM |
| 119 | 2004S PCGS PR69DCAM |
| 120 | 2005S PCGS PR69DCAM |
| 121 | 2006S PCGS PR69DCAM |
| | **Missouri Consignment** |
| 122 | 1970S small date proof set - MB $80 |
| 123 | 1939 roll (50) - VF/better - many XF-AU |
| 124 | 1941 roll (50) - XF-AU |
| 125 | 1944D roll (50) - XF-AU |
| 126 | 1950S roll (50) - XF-AU |
| 127 | 1951D roll (50) - XF-AU |
| 128 | 1954D roll (50) - XF-AU |
| 129 | 1955D roll (50) - XF-AU |
| 130 | 1938S scarce RPM#3 PCGS MS66RD. Not attributed as such on the holder, but the RPM is guaranteed genuine. - MB $100 |
| 131 | 1952D OMM#1 (D/S) ANACS MS65RD - MB $75 |
| 132 | 1956 PCGS MS66RD - MB $20 |
| 133 | 1964 DDR FS-026 - very scarce! - MB $125 |
| 134 | 1951D-1DO-001, doubled die obverse, DDO#1 - VF : MB $5 |
| 135 | 1944S BU lot - 14 pieces, MS63RB - MS65RD |
| 136 | 1945 BU lot - 26 pieces, MS63RD - MS65RD, majority grade 64-65 |
| 137 | 1945D BU lot - 5 pieces, MS63-64 RD. |
| 138 | 1947S BU lot - 7 pieces, MS63RD-MS64RD. |
| 139 | 1950S BU lot - 12 pieces, MS63RD - MS64RD. |
| 140 | 1951D BU lot - 19 pieces, MS63RD-MS64RD, some spotting. |
| 141 | 1952D BU lot - 45 pieces, MS63RD or better, majority are better. |
| 142 | 1954S BU lot - 6 pieces, MS64RD-MS65RD - nice color on these! |
| 143 | 1952D-1OM-001, over mintmark OMM#1 - F-VF : MB $5 |
| 144 | 1953D-1MM-001, RPM D/D West RPM#1 - AU50 : MB $3 |
| 145 | 1953D-1MM-002, RPM D/D West RPM#2 - XF : MB $2 |
| 146 | 1955D-1DO-001, DDO#1 doubled eye, date - AU50 : MB $8 |
| 147 | 1955D-1MM-002, RPM#2 D/D South - AU50: MB $5 |

End of Mail Bid Sale #132. Mail your bids early or send your bids by email to SolTaylor2@aol.com.

# SLCC First Publication

Below you will find an image of the first publication by the SLCC. Note that the first edition of the "Standard Guide to the Lincoln Cent" was called "Collector's and Investor's Guide to the Lincoln Cent.

LINCOLN CENT COLLECTORS

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Vol. I No. 1 LINCOLN SENSE April, 1982 Spring Issue Page 1

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There are many specialized numismatic and philatelic organizations. And there may be a need for more. Recently, the PAK--a group devoted to the collecting of Full Step Jefferson nickels was formed. It has members nationwide. There is a love token collectors society with national meetings. There is an active Civil War Token Collector Society. The list goes on.

The time for a Lincoln Cent Collector's Society has come. There are several objectives of a such an organization:

1. To encourage the collecting of the Lincoln Cent.
2. To encourage the study and research of the Lincoln Cent.
3. To help members exchange duplicates and upgrade their collections.
4. To aid beginning collectors.

LINCOLN SENSE will be published QUARTERLY and it will include: articles on the Lincoln Cent by the editor as well as the members, new items, features, and ads specializing in the Lincoln Cent, plus an exchange column whereby members can exchange coins, albums, supplies, and information.

Charter membership will be limited to the first 100 dues paying members and then open Regular memberships. Membership for the first year will be $25 which will include: a. annual subscription to LINCOLN SENSE, b. membership card, c. deluxe Lincoln Cent album, d. powerful deluxe magnifier loupe, and e. an autographed numbered limited edition of Dr. Sol Taylor's COLLECTOR'S AND INVESTOR'S GUIDE TO THE LINCOLN CENT.

.....tear along dotted line.....

YES, sign me up right now and give me the lowest possible (or choice_____) membership number.

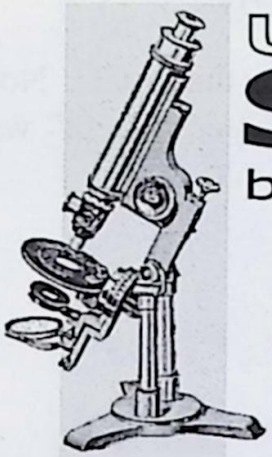
Name_____

Address_____

City_____State_____ZIP_____

The first issue of LINCOLN SENSE WILL BE THE 1982 SUMMER EDITION, Vol. I, No. 1

Mail to: Dr. Sol Taylor P.O. Box 56 Orange, CA 92666
Life member ANA#805, TAMS#79, SIN#62, NASC#21, WCC#2, NLG, and member of CSNA, SPMC, CWTS



# under the SCOPE

## by Charles D. Daughtrey, NLG

A recent submission by collector R. A. Smith led me onto a fantastic (to me anyway) discovery that I thought I should share here. It is well known that the reverse style of the Lincoln cent was changed in 1993, and that some 2000 cents were minted with the old style, or 'proof type' reverse. It is also known that the primary disgnostic is the AM of AMERICA and the space (or lack thereof) between these letters. It is also somewhat widely known that the designer's initials are different between the two reverses. But what if all that is missing, and you still want to determine whether your coin is the scarcer "wide AM" reverse or the more common "close AM" reverse.

Enter the coin in question, and my determination. This coin is struck off-center so as to wipe out most of the key diagnostics, including the last digit of the date. I had to determine which reverse type this was, and had none of the common diagnostics, so I pulled cents known to be of the two different reverse types and studied them.

What I found upon examination of a handful of cents was that the 'close AM' reverse used after 1992 had a distinct centering problem with the A of STATES. On every example viewed, the A was closer to the second T than to the first T. On examples minted previous to 1993, all had the A perfectly centered between the two Ts of STATES.

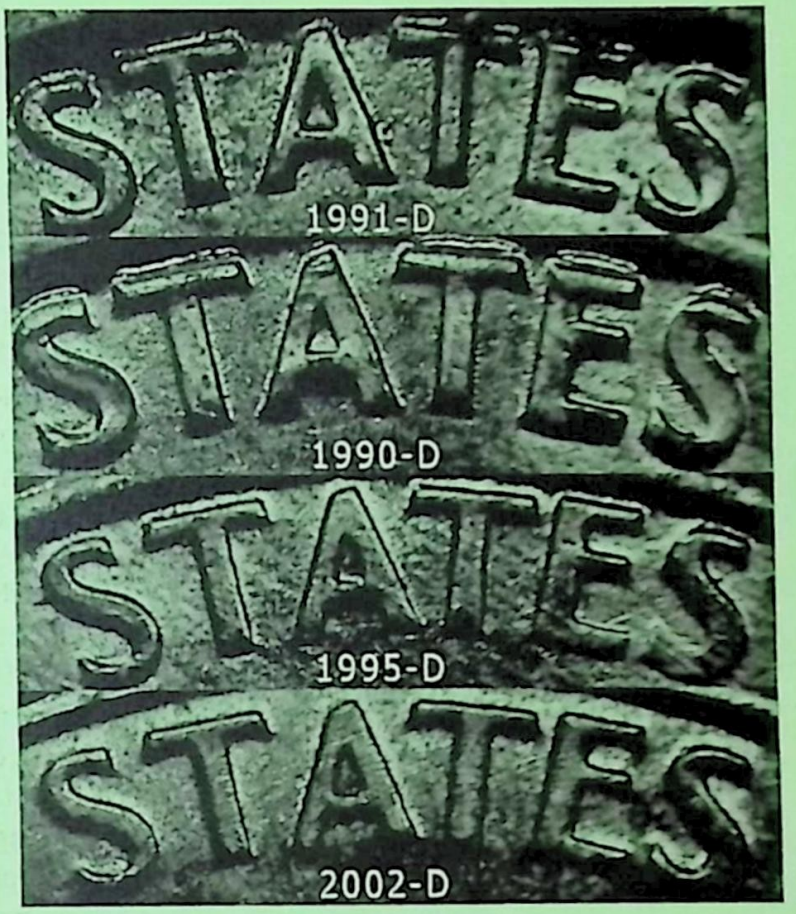
The photo at bottom on the next page is the coin in question. Compare it to the four examples above it and make the determination for yourself. My answer is up-side down at the bottom of the next page.

Under the Scope is a quarterly editorial written by Charles D. Daughtrey, author of Looking Through Lincoln Cents and coppercoins.com. You can contact Charles via email at cd@coppercoins.com.

# Can You Tell??

**Right:** Four coins pulled at random from change and photographed to show the difference between the two reverses in the word STATES. Note the spacing of the letter A with the surrounding letters between the top two and the bottom two.

**Below:** A photo of the same area on the coin in question.




# Which one is it??

The coin was determined to be the scarcer "wide AM" variety. Since 2000 is the only year known to exist with this type, the date of the coin is assumed to be 2000.

# Society of Lincoln Cent Collectors

## Mail Bid Sale Rules (revised 03/05)

**Consignor's Rules:**

1. Consignors must be members of SLCC.
2. Lots must be small cents--sets, rolls, singles, albums.
3. Coins must be marked as to date, mintmark and grade.
4. No altered, counterfeit, damaged, or loose coins accepted.
5. An invoice listing every item for sale must accompany the coins.
6. Coins will be listed in an upcoming sale--space permitting.
7. Lots containing many duplicates can be split between sales.
8. Payment will be made within 45 days after the close of the sale.
9. Unsold lots marked with a reserve will be charged 10% of the reserve to the consignor.
10. Unsold lots can be listed in future sales if consignor agrees.

**Bidder's Rules:**

1. Bidders must be members of SLCC.
2. Bids must be in increments of 25c, 50c, or whole dollars.
3. All lots are open except those marked with a reserve or minimum bid.
4. Use the enclosed bid sheet or duplicate. Bids may also be submitted by e-mail to soltaylor2@aol.com.
5. Bids must arrive before the deadline. Late bids will not be accepted.
6. No "open" bids accepted.
7. Bidders bidding on their own lots will be charged 5% if not overbid.
8. Bid sheets or e-mails must include: daytime phone number and bidder's signature along with mailing address.
9. Bidders are responsible for their own errors. Write legibly.
10. There is a 5 day return privilege--except for slabbed coins, coins certified by a third party grading service, or coins received more than ten days previously. Coins submitted for certification cannot be returned unless marked "altered" or "counterfeit." "Cleaning" does not qualify as "altered."
11. Bidders will be charged for shipping--insured or registered mail depending on value and packaging required for shipping. Shipping costs are not refundable if returning coins.
12. Subject to change without notice.